



# BOATING SAFETY



## For Lost or Destroyed Registrations

Fill out Form PWD 143M and mail to Texas Parks and Wildlife together with the appropriate fee. Only TPWD is authorized to produce a Texas Registration.

## For Abandoned or Destroyed Boats

You must report abandonment or destruction of a boat within 15 days of incident. You must also surrender your Registration to Texas Parks and Wildlife. You may get a registration for a boat with no hull identification if you have it inspected by a TPWD game warden.

## If Selling or Buying a Vessel

### **The seller must complete**

- Form PWD 143, Application For Texas Certificate of Number/title for Boat
- Form PWD 144, Application for Texas Certificate of Title for an Outboard Motor

### **The purchaser must**

- Complete applications including a tax affidavit for registration and titles (boat and motor)
- Mail applications, titles and required fees and tax to TPWD
- File applications no later than 20 days after the purchase.

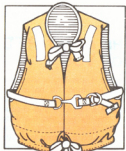
You can find application forms at TPWD offices, marine dealers, and some County Tax Assessor/Collector offices. Both the purchaser and the seller must fill out the forms.



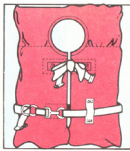
## Lifesaving Devices

- The U.S. Coast Guard must approve all Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)
- You must keep Personal Flotation Devices available for use and easily accessible
- All children under 13 years of age in all vessels under 26 feet long must wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved PFD while not at anchor, made fast to the shore, or aground (or underway)
- You must equip all vessels, including canoes and kayaks with one Type I, II, III or V wearable PFD for each person on board
- Equip Vessels 16 feet and longer, excluding canoes and kayaks, with one Type IV throwable PFD in addition to the Type I, II, III, or V PFD required for each person on board.
- Do not use inflatable PFDs on personal watercraft, water skiing, or other high speed activity

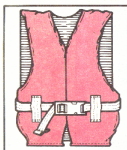
**Type I**



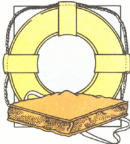
**Type II**



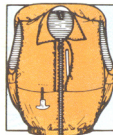
**Type III**



**Type IV**



**Type V**



## Sound Producing Devices

Any vessel less than 39.4 feet long must carry a whistle or horn, or some other means to make a loud enough sound to signal intentions and position in reduced visibility. Vessels longer than 39.4 feet must carry a whistle or horn, and a bell.

## Mirrors

Every motorboat towing a person must have an observer other than the operator, 13 years old or older OR be equipped with a rearview mirror no smaller than 4 inches in height and width.

## Lights

All vessels including motorboats, canoes, kayaks, punts, rowboats, rubber rafts, or other vessels when not at dock must display at least one bright light, lantern or flashlight visible all around the horizon from sunset to sunrise in all weather and during restricted visibility.

## Exhaust Water Manifold (Muffler)

A motorboat must have an exhaust water manifold or a factory type muffler installed on the engine.



## Fire Extinguishers

Texas Parks and Wildlife **requires** fire extinguishers if your boat has any of these

- Closed compartment under thwarts and seats where you keep portable fuel tanks
- Double bottoms not sealed to the hull or which are not completely filled with flotation material
- Closed living spaces
- Closed storage compartments where you store combustible or flammable materials
- Permanently installed fuel tanks
- Inboard engines

Check extinguishers every year to assure that they are properly charged. Make sure that fire extinguishers are where you can use them at all times. Fire extinguishers approved for motorboats are handportable, of either B (for gasoline, oil & grease fires) or BC (also extinguishes electrical fires) classification.



## Fire Extinguishers (cont.)

The number of approved extinguishers required depends on the class of the motorboat. If you have equipped the engine compartment of the motorboat with a fixed (built in) extinguishing system of an approved type, we require one less BI extinguisher.

Vessel Length	Less than 26'	26' to 40'	40' to 65'
Without Fixed System	1 B-I	2 B-I or 1 B-II	3 B-I or 1 B-II & 1 B-I
With Fixed System	None	1 BII	2 B-I or 1 B-II



# NAVIGATION LIGHTS

## Power Driven Vessels

Power driven vessels shorter than 65.6 feet, but more than 39.4 feet need to display navigation lights as shown in Figure 1. Vessels shorter than 39.4 feet should show the lights in either Figure 1 or Figure 2.

Figure 1

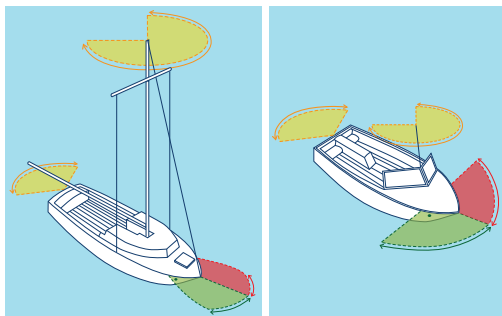


Figure 2

